

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

As media outlets are increasingly owned by large corporations the pro-corporate bias of the media content (particularly news content) is clearly going to increase. The last ten years have seen unprecedented deregulation from the FCC, and predictably the diversity of viewpoints expressed in news outlets has decreased. Further deregulation will only make this worse. Locally owned news outlets unquestionably provide better coverage of local news, yet they are becoming extinct, unable to compete with large corporations. While cable television and other alternative media outlets may provide some diversity in entertainment content, they are also owned by large corporations, and present a pro-corporate bias. The airwaves are supposed to belong to the people of this country, and the FCC is charged with protecting the diversity of opinions expressed on the airwaves. This is the beauty of the airwaves, that everyone who can buy a television or radio can be exposed to what is being!

broadcasted. Destroying the diversity of what is being broadcasted diminishes that role of the broadcast media.